

31st Fighter Wing: The U.S. Air Force's fighter wing south of the Alps.

THE VIGILEER

Vol. 51 No. 06

Feb. 18, 2005

Aviano Air Base, Italy

Fly Bys

Ribbon-cutting

The Italian Air Force and the 31st Fighter Wing host a joint ribbon-cutting ceremony 10 a.m. Tuesday at the new air traffic control tower. All are invited to attend.

Closure

The 31st Medical Group extends its care hours to 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday since its closed today and Monday. If an appointment is needed, call Ext. 5000 or 0434-30-5000.

Construction

Construction begins next week on SS-13, east of Pordenone from before the river bridge to the large traffic circle in Cimpello. It could last as long as three years. The road will not be completely closed. While this construction may cause some delays, there will be detours and alternate routes. This construction will primarily affect military members living east of Pordenone in towns such as Fiume Veneto and Azzano Decimo. People living in these areas can consider taking the A-28 or going through Cordenons to get to and from Aviano Air Base.



Airman 1st Class Scherrie Gates

(L to R) Italian Air Force Col. Rosario Scarpolini, base commander, Brig. Gen. Phil Breedlove, 31st Fighter Wing commander, and Col. Joseph Abbott, 401st Air Expeditionary Wing commander, fill a time capsule during a ceremony here Tuesday.

Aviano Air Base turns 50

By Capt. Nicholas Sabula
31st Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

Italian and U.S. Air Forces joined to commemorate 50 years of friendship and cooperation in a ceremony here Tuesday.

The event celebrated 50 years since U.S. Air Forces in Europe designated and

activated "Aviano Airfield No. 1" to support rotational units fulfilling NATO commitments under Tactical Air Command. The first Air Force alert fighters arrived on Dec. 24, 1955, making Aviano an operational NATO base.

"Today, as well as 50

— See AVIANO, Page 4

Best in service

Air Force recognizes Aviano air terminal

By 2nd Lt. Lea Chambers
31st Fighter Wing public Affairs

The U.S. Air Force recently named an Aviano detachment here as the best in service.

The 721st Air Mobility Operations Group, Detachment 3 here was recognized for being the small air terminal of the year for its support of the 31st Fighter Wing, Southern European Task Force, as well as the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, 16th Air Force, Italian Air Force and NATO units.

Along with the award, the detachment was given a rare opportunity, Feb. 7 to 11, to showcase their abilities and performance to their chain of command when Aviano hosted the 721st AMOG Commander's Conference here.

"The conference brought together AMOG commanders from 15 organizations and 10 countries to discuss issues that affect the group and its people," said Maj. Frank Flores, Det. 3

— See TERMINAL, Page 8

In the event of an emergency people need to go to the Pordenone emergency room, or to the closest emergency room if out of the area.



Mail from the front

Certain items found in war - such as weapons - cannot be shipped back to the states as souvenirs due to international safety and shipping regulations.

- Page 4



Security program

Aviano Airmen who typically work in an office may find themselves working at base gates, thanks to a program that train Airmen to augment security forces.

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Historical photos

Whether proudly displayed or collecting dust in attics, basic training photos are important pieces of Air Force history, and one historian wants to get his hands on them.

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U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Airmen Information File

Providing Honest Feedback

Feedback is a common occurrence in the Air Force — it's mandatory for supervisors to provide formal feedback to their subordinates at specific times.

Supervisors also provide informal feedback on a monthly, weekly, or even daily basis. Regardless of the frequency, it's critical that feedback be honest!

Many people find it difficult to provide honest feedback.

It's easy to tell someone they're doing a good job, but it's harder to be the "bad guy" who tells someone they aren't meeting expectations.

Supervisors may not provide honest feedback for fear of causing tension in the office; instead, they kick the can down the road and leave honest feedback for a future supervisor to deliver.

Supervisors owe their subordinates nothing less than clear, concise and honest feedback so they know exactly where they stand at all times.

Honest feedback allows subordinates to identify where they are falling short and what steps they can take to improve themselves. Subordinates will not fully develop if supervisors fail to tell them where they need improvement.

As individual improvement occurs, it sends out a ripple effect that positively

impacts the entire organization.

Honest feedback also strengthens the credibility of the supervisor giving it.

A subordinate who consistently receives honest feedback from their supervisor remains confident that their supervisor will always be upfront, regardless of the circumstances involved.

When providing feedback, it's vital that you not only be honest, but that you give it in a professional manner — the intent of feedback is to improve individual and team performance, not to belittle.

Finally, realize that providing feedback is not merely a responsibility of supervisors. Regardless of your rank or position, you each have valuable insight to offer.

Peers must be willing to give each other feedback, and supervisors need your feedback too. We never reach a point in our career, or our lives, where we can't benefit from honest, professional feedback.

Providing and receiving honest feedback isn't easy — it requires us to bring our courage to get the job done right.

Start today: be recognized as a straight shooter who is always willing to provide, and receive, direct and honest feedback — our whole USAFE team will benefit!

General Doc Foglesong

CMSgt Gary Coleman

*It's easy to tell someone they're doing a good job,
but it's harder to be the "bad guy" who tells someone
they aren't meeting expectations.*

Military members must adhere to war trophy mailing restrictions

By Roger Kolkema

2nd Air Postal Squadron,
Ramstein Air Base, Germany

Throughout history, soldiers have come home with souvenirs from battle.

Many of these war-related items end up on display in museums and showcases.

Although it's tempting to bring back reminders of service in a military campaign, with few exceptions, taking or retaining individual souvenirs or trophies is prohibited.

"It is against the law to take certain souvenirs from a war zone," said 1st Lt. Andrew Ignash, 2nd Air Postal Squadron postal operations flight commander. "There are Department of Defense restrictions as well."

It is important for military personnel to understand there are strict guidelines regarding the transportation of war trophies.

"You can go to jail for mailing an illegal object," said Lieutenant Ignash.

Shipping weapons as personal property is an offense punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, he said. War trophies, defined as enemy weapons, ammunition, explosives or items of

equipment, are non-mailable. This includes live or spent rounds, pistols, machine guns, weapons magazines and anti-personnel mines.

Most munitions and military articles of equipment may not be mailed; however, war trophies that obviously pose no safety risk, such as enemy uniform items and flags, may be mailed, said Lieutenant Ignash.

"If you're unsure whether an item can be legally imported, don't try to mail it," said Tech. Sgt. Craig Thomas, 2nd AIRPS command postal manager. "Ask your postmaster to clarify the rules, follow the regulations as written and there should be no problem."

Almost all parcels move as cargo on commercial airliners, said Sergeant Thomas. Mailing war trophies can cause mail delays, bomb evacuations and confiscation of parcels, which occurs when mail containing a war trophy is X-rayed by foreign governments and airline carriers.

People should not mail items that are made from weapons parts or articles that resemble weapons as they may cause flight delays, mail stoppage, and bomb scares, said Steve Waller, 2nd AIRPS command official mail manager.

"If an X-ray could show that it may be dangerous to the passengers of a plane, it shouldn't be mailed," Mr. Waller said.



Staff Sgt. Jeremy Smith

Senior Airman Troy Goercke, a postal worker, helps sort packages in Iraq. Servicemembers deployed to the Middle East must obey postal laws when shipping items to the states.

"Foreign countries could stop military mail flow through their country altogether if they believe that military parcels threaten their aircraft."

"Mailing weapons, even non-functional replicas, is an unsafe and illegal practice," he continued. "For example, shell casing or bullet belt buckles, hand grenade paperweights, pistols mounted on plaques and so on could cause an international incident, delay the mail and could even put the mailer in a foreign jail."

Airmen with questions about what can be mailed should contact their post office, customs office or legal office.

Life-threatening emergency? Call the Italian authorities by dialing 118. For on-base emergencies, dial 911.

Grab&Go

The commissary Grab & Go, located at the far end of the commissary, is opened daily 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. It opens again when the commissary closes until midnight. In the Grab & Go, there are more than 1000 items to meet your needs. Free coffee is also offered to its customers.

AVIANO, From Page 1

years ago, we celebrate our friendship and partnership in taking care of democracy all around the world," said Italian Air Force Col. Scarpolini, Aviano base commander.

The ceremony was highlighted by speeches and dedication of a time capsule. A major Italian recognition event was held in the province later that evening by Italian regional authorities.

From the mid-1950s through the early 1990s, Aviano remained a relatively small operation, used to host alert deployments and many Air Force and Army exercises.

Beginning in 1993 with Operation Deny Flight and continuing through the conclusion of NATO operations on December 31, 2004, Aviano was heavily involved in the troubled Balkan region.

"In 1993 with operations in the Balkans, Aviano became the forefront of our nation's endeavors overseas," said Brig. Gen. Philip M. Breedlove, 31st Fighter Wing commander. "Today Italy continues to be one of America's closest allies as together we fight the Global War on Terrorism."

Today, more than 4,000 assigned members and their families call Aviano home.

In April 1994, the 31st Fighter Wing was activated at Aviano, creating the Air Force's only

fighter wing south of the Alps and the first permanent basing of U.S. fighter aircraft there.

In 1999 Aviano gained its place in history as the main operating base for Operation Allied Force. More than 190 aircraft from five countries used Aviano to conduct operations against Serbian forces during the conflict.

"While we're probably best known for our operations during Allied Force, it's important to note that the war that we fought here for many, many years - the Cold War - was probably the most important contribution we've made together to have brought peace to this world," said General Breedlove.

With the start of Desert Shield in 1990, the base deployed hundreds of Airmen, and tons of cargo and munitions in support of operations in the Persian Gulf.

In 2003, Aviano served as the launch point for the Army's 173rd Airborne airdrop into northern Iraq. The airdrop was the largest since Operation Just Cause.

During World War II, U.S. Army Air Forces attacked the Italian aeroporto nine times, using 41 aircraft to drop 114 tons of general purpose bombs on the airfield.

Augmentee program boasts force

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs,
Vigileer editor

A new 31st Fighter Wing program gets Airmen ready to perform 31st Security Forces Squadron duties should the base need extra security.

The Resource Augmentation Training, known as the READY program, trains Airman E-5 and below general force protection knowledge that will help them should they be needed to protect the installation, its people and resources.

"We are extremely grateful to have the privilege of training valuable members of the 31st Fighter Wing. I hope each member takes away a high awareness of the overall picture of security," said Tech. Sgt. Steve Doll, 31st SFS READY manager.

Airman 1st Class Daniel Wilson attended a recent three-day training course for the program. Through classroom discussion, a field trip around the base and advanced weapons training, he and other students learned about the different procedures used by security forces Airmen.

He said being an augmentee differs greatly from his usual job as a 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron supply storage and issue clerk.

"The cops have a new job every day," he said. "As a supply clerk, I'm back here in



File photo

Security forces augmentees are trained in gate procedures, such as checking identification cards as vehicles enter the base.

one place. But a cop could be working at a gate today only to find out he or she is working at the armory tomorrow."

While Airmen are trained for the program, it can only be implemented by the wing commander. "We hope that the call will never come, but we stand ready to activate the program in case the need arises," said 31st SFS commander, Lt. Col. Quattrone. "The READY program is truly a one-team-one-fight concept and we appreciate the support we have received thus far from the different wing organizations."

RESCON CORNER

	DUIs
Week	0
28 days	3

RESCON Bravo

Unfortunately, the 31st Fighter Wing experienced three drunk driving incidents in the last 28 days. Therefore, the wing is in RESCON Bravo.

In order for the RESCON level to return to Normal, the wing must go 31 days without a drunk driving incident.

Remember, if you plan to drink when you go out, make plans for a safe way home, either through a designated driver or Airmen Against Drunk Driving.

Call 0434-30-5938.

USAFE Idol: All Aviano members are invited to the USAFE Idol competition 7 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Aviano Community Center.

Sortie Board

Hours Sorties

31st FW

Goal **644.2 392**

Ahead or Behind **136.8 12**

510th FS

Goal **293.6 202**

Ahead or Behind **75 49**

555th FS

Goal **350.6 190**

Ahead or Behind **61.8 -37**



Airman 1st Class Desiree Hayden

English lessons

Staff Sgt. Bethann Caporaletti, 31st Communications Squadron, talks with a group of girls at the San Antonio Di Porcia school Feb. 10. Aviano volunteers went to the school to help students learn the English language through plays, worksheets and question and answer sessions.

History project seeks basic-training photos

By Maj. Rich Curry

507th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs,
Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.

An Air Force historian seeks basic-training photos for an online repository of Air Force basic training flight graduation photos.

Tech. Sgt. Tracy English, a 37th Training Wing historian at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, said he recognized that a part of the Air Force's history, basic training flight photos, was becoming lost to the ravages of time, so Sergeant English set out to find the contractors who were hired to take each flight graduation photo.

"It took several months of searching and going through the Better Business Bureau to (find) some of the original contractors. After spending all that time searching, we learned that the contractor policy was to only keep original photographs for 90 days before throwing them away," he said.

Back to square one, the historian took a different tact and established a Web site to announce the project as well as to solicit photographs. After 12 months, Sergeant English collected roughly 2,000 photos, and estimates there are only 117,000 to go. He said his two-person office is receiving a steady stream of submissions and they are working weekends to keep up to date.

The project is a way to help the Air Force and Airmen alike trace their roots, he said. It seeks to collect all of about 119,000 U.S. Air



Got a basic photo?

People can submit high-quality scanned basic training images via e-mail to 37TRW.HO@lackland.af.mil. JPEG or JPG images are preferred.

Hard copies can be sent to:
37TRW/HO
1650 Carswell Avenue
Lackland AFB, TX 78236

Force basic training flight photos from the inception of the Air Force in 1947 to present.

The collection includes photos from all the bases that conducted Air Force basic training including Lackland; Sampson AFB, N.Y.; Parks AFB, Calif.; Amarillo AFB, Texas; and Sheppard AFB, Texas.

Since the project started, Sergeant English said his office has received roughly 120 pieces of mail and 600 e-mail messages every month with people asking for specific photographs or sending photos to be published on the site.

"We didn't see all the ramifications of this project when we started it," Sergeant English said. "We have people looking for some memento of deceased parents, or people who have lost all of their military records (in) a fire or flood and just want to provide some form of evidence that they

had served in the Air Force.

"A lot of people had their military records destroyed during a military records warehouse fire in St. Louis in the 1970s. We've even had people trying to look up and meet with members from their training flight from 50 years ago," he said.

Airmen may look for their graduation photo online at <http://www.lackland.af.mil/info/photos.asp>

"If you don't see your flight photo, we may not have it yet," Sergeant English said.

Sergeant English said it may take time to get the photos posted online. "We only have two people assigned to our office. We're excited about this project and are even working lots of extra time to keep it going, but we have to sleep sometime," he joked. (Air Force News Service)

PC wars take place at The Spot 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. March 5 at the Aviano Community Center. Call Ext. 5479 to sign up or for more information.

New to the Blue

Congratulations to the following Aviano families!

Elizabeth Farrugia Endicott was born Jan. 7 to Tammy and Maj. Troy Endicott, 16th Air Force.

Briella Faye Eulanstein was born on Dec. 13 to Raenita and Capt. Erni Eulanstein, 31st Medical Operations Squadron.

Kaleb Brett Hensley was born Nov. 5 to Mendy and Tech. Sgt. Roy Hensley Jr., 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron, and sister, Kaylee, 8.

Colton James Lucas was born on Dec. 5 to Heidi and Senior Airmen Jedd Lucas, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron.

Davin Maitland Lundquist was born Feb. 1 to Janet and Master Sgt. Troy Lundquist,

Detachment 1, 4th Air Support Operations Group, and sister Carolyne Grace, 4.

Jeremiah Joshua Massey was born Feb. 7 to Shenika and Staff Sgt. Jerry Massey, 31st Communications Squadron, and brothers Nathan Davis, 8, and Kevin Williams, 7.

Paul Harris Pullins III was born Jan. 11 to Carrie and Senior Airmen Paul Pullins, 31st Contracting Squadron and sisters Mikyla E. Stalbaum, 7, and Kayla A. Pullins, 3.

Francesca Maria Spyker was born Jan. 25 to Maria and Maj. Rick Spyker, 16th Air Force and siblings Katherine, 12, and Marc, 10.

TERMINAL, From Page 1

commander. "The awards banquet is the culmination of the week's activities and recognizes the group's outstanding mobility professionals."

One issue discussed by the conference's 110 attendees and award recipients was the Rhein Main transition and its effect on operations within the group. Col. Tim Grosz, 721st AMOG commander said the transition is going extremely well.

He attributed the success largely to mobility professionals committed to the group's three core competencies: command and control, maintenance and aerial port.

"I'm extremely proud of the mission we do," said Colonel Grosz. "We have some outstanding Airmen out there fixing jets, loading jets and doing a great job."

Det. 3 personnel will see mostly a name change when their unit becomes the tenth squadron of the group. Their duties will remain the same.

"It's awesome here," said Airman 1st Class Kenisha Houston, passenger service agent.

"I've had the opportunity to learn more about the different aspects of my job than I would have at a bigger port. The people here are great," she said.

The award will be formally presented this summer.

New terminal hours

Beginning March 1, the Aviano Passenger Terminal's hours change to 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 8 a.m. to noon weekends. Early check-in for the Patriot Express will be 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. the day prior to the mission. Call Ext. 7680 for more information.

Observance luncheon

Brig. Gen. Ronnie Hawkins Jr. speaks at the 31st Fighter Wing African-American Heritage Observance Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 23 at the La Bella Vista Club. People who wish to attend must RSVP with their first sergeant by close of business today.

Safety announcement

A small, improvised device exploded in Treviso Jan. 26 when a child kicked a toy from a hollow chocolate egg candy. No one was hurt, but it is likely the work of the Italian Unabomber. While he does not appear to be targeting Americans, the 31st Fighter Wing Intelligence Antiterrorism force protection unit recommends people refrain from picking up or touching even innocent-looking objects in public places. Be cautious when purchasing Italian candy designed for children.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Aviano Alcoholics Anonymous meets 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in Area One Bldg. 168 behind the child development center. For more information about AA, or alcohol abuse, call Ext. 5321.

Deployment briefing

Those deploying soon can attend a pre-deployment briefing 9 a.m. Wednesdays except for holidays, down days and base exercises at the Aviano Family Support Center. Call Ext. 5407 to sign up.

Oil change

Spouses of servicemembers deployed more than 30 days can receive a free oil change for the primary vehicle. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

Safe Highway

Aviano drivers can use the Safe Highway program to report



Airman 1st Class Scherrie Gates

Taking care of the community

Tech. Sgt. Shawn Darragh (top) and Staff Sgt. Donelle Clark apply an oxygen mask to a "patient" during ambulance training here Tuesday. The training allowed both sergeants, who are emergency medical technicians with the 31st Medical Group here, to practice emergency response procedures, inspect equipment and fine-tune their life-saving skills.

fellow Americans who drive in an unsafe manner by visiting the Aviano Intranet Safe Highway link. The program was created to assist in the reduction of both minor and major traffic accidents here. Reports must be as specific as possible, to include color, make and model of a vehicle, driver and passenger descriptions, date, location and time of the incident.

Marriage information

The Aviano Family Support Center assists people with filing their marriage paperwork and arranging downtown appointments. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

TDY scheduling

Airmen can schedule official travel as soon as they have valid TDY dates. People do not need orders to call the Aviano Traffic Management Office to begin the scheduling process. For more information, call TMO at Ext. 5646.

Lost and found

The 31st Security Forces Squadron Investigations Section is the base point of contact for lost and found property. Found property can be turned in to the Law Enforcement desk in Bldg. 1019 on the Flightline. Inquiries about lost property should be directed to the agency where the property was lost before calling Ext. 5401 or 0434-66-5401.

Smooth Move

The Aviano Family Support Center offers a Smooth Move seminar 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays, except for base down days and federal holidays. Attendance is highly encouraged for airmen basic to technical sergeants and second lieutenants to captains. Call the FSC at Ext. 5407 for more information.

GTC online payments

Because of an apparent scam, ensure Government Travel card payments are sent to the Bank of America on

www.myeasypayment.com and not www.myeasypay.com.

Survivor benefit plan

Enrolling in the Survivor Benefit Plan prior to retiring will ensure families have guaranteed income after a servicemember's death. Additional details are available by calling Aviano's SBP counselor, Denise Larmer, at Ext. 4699.

Wingman Wednesdays

Wingmen with their cards can receive the following benefits Wednesdays around the base:

- Bowling for the price of one and free shoes at the Aviano Bowling Center
- Free golf cart at the Aviano Golf Course
- 25 cent wings at the La Bella Vista Club
- Wingmen workout 4 to 5 p.m. at the Dragon Fitness Center
- Two for one price on ski and snowboard equipment at Outdoor Recreation
- Five percent off any day tour signed for on Wednesdays.

*"I like to believe
that people in the long
run are going to do more to
promote peace than our governments.
Indeed, I think that people want peace so
much that one of these days, governments
had better get out of the way and let them have it."*
Dwight D. Eisenhower,
President of the United States 1953-1961



50 YE

New tower

1964-Aviano's "new" air traffic control tower, right, was under construction to replace the older tower, left. The "new" tower went on to serve Aviano for 41 years.



This Airman obviously knew his AFM 35-10.

In the news

During the 1960s, the Vigileer was a tabloid-length newspaper. It went through a variety of names, such as Cavallo Courier and the Dolomite Gazette.

Topics covered in the bimonthly publication included photo spreads on uniform wear and military bearing (picture, left), commander commentaries about the importance of seatbelts, paddle ball tournaments, square dance club graduations, Airmen awards, recipes and many travel articles. The following are Vigileer headlines from that era:

Aug. 18, 1961: Communism and You Series - Lenin and Stalin

Nov. 12, 1965: Postal Personnel Still Stress Early Mailing for Christmas

May 13, 1966: President Johnson's Armed Forces Day Proclamation

Dec. 16, 1966: Military ball queen candidates announced

Dec. 22, 1967: Aviano features world's smallest voting booth - a mailbox



Aviano acts as major exercise installation

1983 - Two F-4s from the 512th Tactical Fighter Squadron await the Tactical Airlift Wing C-130 flies over the runway here. Aviano Air has hosted many exercises in the 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s.



Clean-up efforts

1976 - Aviano Airmen aid in the recovery effort after a massive earthquake shook Northern Italy by cleaning a road in the town of Forgaria, north of Spilimbergo.



1955

Aviano Airfield No. 1 activated
First U.S. Air Force fighters arrive

1966

40th Tactical
Group activates

1971

F-4s replace
F-100s on alert at Aviano

1976

Earthquake
strikes the Friuli region

1980s

Hosts deployment
exercises

YEARS



"Americans are a free people, who know that freedom is the right of every person and the future of every nation. The liberty we prize is not America's gift to the world. It is God's gift to humanity."
George W. Bush,
President of the United States 2000-



on
takeoff while a 435th
Base was the site of

In the news

During the 1970s and 1980s, the Vigileer was a metro-sized newspaper. In the 1980s, it began publishing weekly, and later in the decade, changed to a newsletter format.

Topics covered in the publication included articles about drug and alcohol abuse, military pay and smart finances, Air Force programs and dependent family member care. Vigileer headlines from that era include:

Feb. 13, 1978: Budget cuts change newspaper size

June 8, 1979: Base aids Aviano dance group after bus accident

Dec. 28, 1984 - TV broadcasting at Aviano becomes reality

Oct. 3, 1985 - DD '85, Nations join forces to test capabilities

Sept. 22, 1989 - Air Force officials warn computer users of possible virus attacks



1999 - An F-117 Stealth Fighter lifts off from Aviano for a mission over Kosovo in support of NATO's Operation Allied Force. Between 1993's Operation Deny Flight and Allied Force, the base population swelled from about 1,500 to 3,500 people.

Ready to go

2003 - C-17s wait on the Aviano flightline before heading off in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



RED HORSE

1990 - This is a view of the RED HORSE compound. The 603rd Air Control Squadron now occupies this area. The open field behind the building was used as a tank training area. It's now the site of the softball fields, La Bella Vista club and Dragon Fitness Center.

In the news

During the 1990s and 2000s, the Vigileer remained in the newsletter format, published weekly. With desktop publishing, its grown to use more color, graphics and photos.

Headlines from the era include:

Sept. 30, 1994: 510th FS takes over DENY FLIGHT from 555th FS

Feb. 13, 1998: USAFE commander opens Sacile hospital

May 15, 1998: Base theater relocates to flightline support area

March 24, 2000: President Clinton stops at Aviano on way to India

Feb. 23, 2001: Traffic changes in Areas One and Two

Nov. 12, 2004: Top Air Force leaders visit Aviano

All of the information is courtesy of Tech. Sgt. Niklaas Waller, 31st Fighter Wing historian, the Base Multimedia Center and the 31st FW Public Affairs archives.

1990

Operation Desert Shield support

1993

Operation Deny Flight begins

1994

31st Fighter Wing activated

1995

Aviano 2000 program begins

1999

Operation Allied Force begins

2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom begins

Fly Bys

Vacation location

Aviano travelers can make an appointment with an Information, Tickets and Travel representative to design their next vacation. Call Ext. 5072 for more information.

Travel Web site

Americans with travel plans should visit <http://travel.state.gov> to get the latest travel advisories in Europe. Maintained by the U.S. Department of State, the Web site offers a list of places suspected of anti-American activity, as well as other information for travelers. Call the 31st Fighter Wing Manpower Office at Ext. 7308 with questions about the site or other antiterrorism force protection measures.

Open-air markets

Local Italian villages hold open-air markets one day each week. The following schedule identifies the market day for area villages: Monday - Maniago, Azzano Decimo, Vittorio Veneto, Lignano; Tuesday - Aviano, Casarsa, Codroipo, San Quirino; Wednesday - Pordenone, Budoia, Cordignano, Oderzo, Latisana; Thursday - Roveredo, Fontanafredda, Fiume Veneto, Sacile, Montebelluna, Portogruaro; Friday - Cordenons, Porcia, San Vito al Tagliamento, Conegliano; Saturday - Pordenone, Spilimbergo, Caorle, Treviso; Sunday - Udine.

Spouses Benvenuti

Aviano spouses are invited to attend the Aviano Family Support Center's special "spouses" Benvenuti gathering to learn more about the local area and the Italian language and shopping skills. The class meets monthly 8:30 a.m. to noon Monday through Wednesday. Call Ext. 5661 for more information and for the date of the next class.



Courtesy photo

Name this vacation location

King Gustav Vasa of Sweden founded this location, in 1550, on the mouth of the Vantaa River. In the mid-1600s the centre was moved to its current location on the southern peninsula, to compete better for Baltic Sea trade. Eventually, it became part of Russia until it became the capital of an independent republic in 1917. The university and growing industry helped secure its status well into the 20th century where it earned its place among the world's metropolises though hosting the Summer Olympics in 1952. Be the sixth person to send in the attraction's name and location (to include city and street) to vigileer@aviano.af.mil, and win a prize! Congratulations to Senior Airman Heather Howell, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, for correctly identifying last week's "Vacation Location" as Mozart's Geburtshaus at Getreidegasse, 9, Salzburg, Austria.

Looking to travel?: Check out travel advisories, restrictions and other information at usembassy.state.gov before the trip.



Courtesy photo

Val Zoldana, Italy is home to a variety of ski slopes and summer sport activities.

ITT: Information, Tickets and Travel

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- Feb. 21 - Ceramics shopping in Nove, Italy
- Feb. 21 - Ski trip to Val Zoldana
- Feb. 26 - Guided Salzburg
- Feb. 26 - Pisa and Da Vinci museums
- March 5 - Guided Trieste and its castles: Duino, Castello di Miramare and much more. People may sign up now with only a 50-

percent deposit on an ITT tour.

The ITT escort will ensure the group arrives and departs from the destination as scheduled and will do everything possible to make the trip safe and comfortable for participants.

Please note weather conditions and dress accordingly for the trip. The office also recommends wearing comfortable shoes because almost all tours involve walking.

He or she will provide general information about the area, as well. For more information about ITT tours, call Ext. 5072 or 5026.

Academy team splits series with Alabama-Huntsville

The Air Force Academy split a two-game series against the University of Alabama-Huntsville Feb. 11 and 12.

In the first game, the Chargers scored a goal in each period for a 3-1 win.

The Falcons controlled the first several minutes of the first period and had some scoring chances but were not able to put the puck in the net.

After Air Force did not capitalize on 4-on-3 power play, the Chargers answered with a 5-on-3 power play goal. Charger forward Craig Bushey beat goalie Peter Foster from the bottom of the right circle.

The Chargers took a 2-0 lead with an even-strength goal in the second period. Derek Conter put back a rebound on a flurry in front of the net at the 16:21 mark.

Midway through the third period, Falcon Eric Ehn scored his seventh of the season on the power play. Seth Pelletier won a faceoff and Matt Charbonneau's shot from the point was saved. Ehn put back the rebound and cut the Chargers' lead to one goal. One minute later, the Chargers scored with a power play goal. Brian Reese was called for roughing at the 9:08 mark and 20 seconds later the Chargers lit the lamp. Steve Canter scored from Brett McConnachie and Grant Selinger.

UAH held a slim advantage in shots, 25-24, over Air Force. The Falcons were 1-for-6 on the power play while the Chargers were 2-for-5. Foster made 22 saves for the Falcons. Scott Munroe made 23 for the Chargers.

In the second game, the Falcons broke a 14-game losing streak here, a streak that dates back to 1989.

Air Force drew first blood as the Falcons converted a power play at the 14:37 mark of the first period.

Forward Andrew Ramsey drew a hooking penalty on Mike Salekin, and the Falcons capitalized. Brian Gineo's slap shot from the point was saved by Scott Munroe. The rebound came out to the far post, and Ramsey put back the

rebound for his seventh of the season.

The Falcons scored twice in the second period and built a 3-0 lead. Theo Zacour scored his first goal of the season at the 5:03 mark of the period. Brian Reese and Mike Knaeble assisted on the play as Zacour stuffed in a shot on the short side. Nine minutes later, Eric Ehn gave the Falcons a 3-0 lead. His eighth of the season came from Seth Pelletier.

Pelletier made a pass from the corner, and Ehn gave the Falcons a three-goal lead.

The Chargers turned the game around early in the third period with a pair of power-play goals. They started the third period on the power play and capitalized as Craig Bushey scored on a flurry in front of the net 37 seconds into the period. His goal came just as the power play expired.

The Chargers got within one goal as Brett McConnachie scored on a rebound at the 4:13 mark to make the score 3-2. The majority of the third period turned into a frantic game in front of the Air Force net.

The Chargers buzzed around goaltender Ian Harper, but to no avail as several centering passes went untouched, sliding through the crease and the slot. The Chargers pulled their goalie, Scott Munroe, with 54 seconds left, but never created any offense. Ryan Wiggins nearly had an empty-net goal with 38 seconds left.

"Huntsville outscored us 10-3 in our own building, and we came in here and beat them on their ice," head coach Frank Serratore said. "(This is) a tremendous effort and accomplishment by this team.

"We outplayed them in the first two periods, and then our youthfulness came through in the third period, and we played not to lose."

With the win, Air Force improved to 13-13-2 overall and 5-9 in College Hockey America. The Chargers fell to 13-7-4 overall and 10-3-1 in the league. Air Force is in fifth place in the CHA, but just 2 points behind third-place Wayne State University. (Air Force News Service.)

Fly Bys

Fun night

The X-Box, pool and spades tournaments for ages 18 to 25 is tonight at the Spot from 7 to midnight with free food and entertainment. The winner of the X-Box Tournament will represent Aviano in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe X-Box Tournament.

Volleyball invitational

The Aviano Varsity Volleyball Men's and Women's teams host a Pasta Bowl Volleyball Invitational tomorrow and Sunday at the Dragon Fitness Center. All Aviano members are invited to attend the event. For more information, call Heather Kowalski at 349-593-4630 or Jessica Jackson at Ext. 7459 or 348-887-2522.

Daytona 500

The Daytona 500 Pick the Winners Contest is Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Spot. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

Pool Shark Shoot-out

The Spot i hosts an 8-ball tournament 12 p.m. Feb. 26. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

Winter Sports

Snow Rafting, Taxi-Bob and other winter activities are available to Team Aviano. For information on individual and group trips and lessons, call Outdoor Recreation at Ext. 8623.

Congratulations

The following Aviano members won during the U.S. Air Forces in Europe ski competition recently: Skiing slalom - 1st place Thomas Pagano, 2nd place Andrew Thorburn; Open men's slalom - 1st place Metodi Roulev; Giant slalom - senior men 1st place Thomas Pagano, 2nd place Steven Clancy, 3rd place Andrew Thorburn; open men's 1st place Eugene Richter, 2nd place Metodi Roulev; Snowboard senior men 1st place William Tucker; men's open snowboard 1st place Robert Blankenship, 3rd place Steven Hayes; women's open snowboard 1st place Marie Tucker, 2nd Larissa Shipunoff; 13-17 year boys 1st place Ethan Laser; 10 - 12 years 1st place Josiah Laser.

Umpires needed: The AYP is looking for baseball and softball umpires, call Randall at 340-325-9781.



Senior Airman Brian Ferguson

Daytona dash

Ricky Rudd, driver of the No. 21 Motorcraft/Air Force race car, prepares for the start of a race at the speedway in Las Vegas. The 2005 NASCAR season kicks off Sunday with the Daytona 500.

UPCLOSE

and personal with Aviano's best

It's not only active duty people giving Aviano a good name -- family members of all ages work hard every day. **Au Bree Mariz** is one such family member. The college-bound Aviano High School senior has represented Aviano well during her time here, as a varsity all-Europe volleyball champ, U.S. Air Forces in Europe Media contest winner and assistant managing editor for the Aviano Times, AHS's newspaper.

Q: Who is your role model?

A: My dad, Master Sgt. Steven Mariz, [a 31st Operations Squadron air traffic controller.] He is a great leader and inspires me to be better than I think I can be.

Q: You were born in Biloxi, Miss., and lived in London. Now you're here in Italy. What is life like as a "military brat?"

A: It is hard at times, but it has been a great experience. I can't picture my life any differently. The U.S. Air Force has given me so many wonderful opportunities and has taught me so much about life and myself. I love traveling and I love being able to say that I lived overseas.

Q: What's the best

thing about living at Aviano Air Base?

A: Let's see, where to start ... the markets are fun to visit. Piancavallo is only 30 minutes away. We are centrally-located for all kinds of traveling. And it is an awesome place to grow up.

Q: You've accomplished a lot here at Aviano. What's your secret?

A: I'm a determined person and I work very hard for everything I do. I have a lot of support from team mates, family and friends.

Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

A: I love to write and enjoy being involved in the world around me. One day, I hope to be a great journalist. [In ten years] I'll already be working



for the National Geographic and moving toward a career in reporting for CNN or 60 Minutes.

Q: If you could meet any person -- dead or alive -- who would it be and why?

A: I would want to meet Daniel Pearl. I would have loved to hear about all his experiences that he went through. He did so much and he was a great journalist.

Q: What's a perfect day for you?

A: Snowboarding in the morning, lunch with friends, playing some volleyball and then some home-cooked Hispanic food with my family. *(Compiled by Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein, 31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs, Vigileer editor)*



Cornerstone

An indispensable and fundamental basis

The **Cornerstone Page** is devoted to those who support: junior enlisted, NCOs, CGOs and spouses. It's to share advice, ideas and opinions dealing with life in the Air Force and Aviano. It's also a forum to recognize those around us. The **Cornerstone Page** will also offer Air Force trivia and facts.

Submission info

We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with us and the community. To submit:

Commentaries:

Writers can send commentaries to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words. Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Kudos: Aviano members can send kudos to Vigileer @aviano.af.mil with the subject line "Kudos." Kudos can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Faxed articles will not be accepted by the staff. The public affairs office is in Bldg. 1360, Room 19.

Kudos: Recognizing those who serve

Graduates

Airman Leadership School Congratulations to the following Aviano Airman Leadership School graduates. ALS is the first step of Professional Military Education for the Air

Force's enlisted corps. Senior airmen and staff sergeant selects must complete this 24-day course in order to obtain the title "supervisor." • **Joshua Burk**, 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron, John Levitow Award and Leadership Award recipient • **Tera Little**, 31st Maintenance Squadron, Academic Award recipient, distinguished graduate • **Joseph Dibattista**, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, distinguished graduate • **Matthew Pace**, 31st MXS, distinguished graduate • **Michael Cambridge Jr.**, Detachment 3, 721st Air Mobility Operations Group • **Derek Lambert**, Det. 3, 721st AMOG • **Brett Davidson**, Detachment 1 • **Adrian Muntean**, 712th Red Horse • **Angela Canale**, 712th Munitions • **Brandon Spearrin**, 712th MUNS • **Jeremy Naparty**, 704th Munitions • **Bonnie Ann Scheeter**, 603rd Air Control Squadron • **Michael Styles**, 603rd ACS • **James Sese**, 496th Air Base Squadron • **Rosa Bingham**, 31st Security Forces Squadron • **Sergio Toro Jr.**, 31st SFS • **Karo Giulakian**, 31st Operations Support Squadron • **Jacob Burton**, 31st MXS • **Kenneth Falkner**, 31st MXS • **Nathan Mcelroy**, 31st MXS • **Brian Pence**, 31st MXS • **Bobby Rusley**, 31st MXS • **David Vanschaick**, 31st MXS • **Tamera Schmit**, 31st Medical Operations Squadron • **Sharon Carle**, 31st LRS • **Sarah Goodman**, 31st LRS • **John Herbert**, 31st LRS • **Benjamin Vorheis**, 31st LRS • **Troy Wheeler**, 31st LRS • **Miguel Armada**, 31st Communications Squadron • **Matthew Larimore**, 31st CS • **Melwing Isaac**, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron • **Jennifer Molina**, 31st CES • **Tia Carlson**, 31st AMXS • **Joseph Dibattista**, 31st AMXS • **Eva Graney**, 31st AMXS • **Justin Holacka**, 31st AMXS • **John Hughes** • **Clifford Jackson**, 31st AMXS • **John Kuczynski**, 31st AMXS • **Joshua Ziriak**, 31st AMXS